

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 186400

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DRAFTED BY NEA:HHSUNDERS:HE

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

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NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, US, IS, XF

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS

FOR AMBASSADOR TOON EYES ONLY FROM THE SECRETARY

1. AFTER DISCUSSING PRESIDENT SADAT'S RESPONSE TO THE ISRAELI POSITION GIVEN TO ME BY DINITZ ON JULY 25 WITH HERMANN EILTS IN BELGRADE ON AUGUST 3 AND ON AIR FORCE ONE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON AUGUST 4, I HAD AN HOUR AND A HALF MEETING WITH DINITZ ON AUGUST 5 TO CONVEY THE LATEST EGYPTIAN POSITION, WHICH IS DESCRIBED BELOW FOR YOUR BACKGROUND.

.. I ALSO DISCUSSED WITH DINITZ THE TIMETABLE FOR A POSSIBLE SHUTTLE. I EXPLAINED MY VIEW THAT SEPTEMBER WILL BE AN IMPOSSIBLE MONTH FOR NEGOTIATION BECAUSE I MUST BE IN NEW YORK FOR BOTH THE SPECIAL AND REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE UNGA, BECAUSE OF RAMADAN, AND BECAUSE OF THE NUMER-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 186400

OUS JEWISH HOLIDAYS IN SEPTEMBER. I POINTED OUT THAT

OCTOBER IS TOO LATE BECAUSE BY THAT TIME WE WILL BE UP AGAINST ANOTHER UNEF RENEWAL DEADLINE. WITH AUGUST THE ONLY REAL POSSIBILITY, I TOLD DINITZ I WAS PREPARED TO LEAVE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST SOMETIME IN THE PERIOD AUGUST 18-20. DINITZ REPLIED THAT HE HAD BEEN ASKED BY

RABIN TO SAY THAT THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WOULD HOLD ITSELF AVAILABLE DURING THAT LAST THIRD OF AUGUST. DINITZ ALSO MENTIONED, AS RABIN HAD TO YOU, THAT RABIN IN STOCKHOLM PAVED THE WAY WITH KREISKY FOR DELAYING HIS AUSTRIAN VISIT.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE ISRAELI RESPONSE TO THE LATEST EGYPTIAN POSITION, I URGED AS PROMPT A RESPONSE AS POSSIBLE, POINTING OUT THAT IT IS ALMOST ESSENTIAL THAT EILTS RETURN TO CAIRO BY THE WEEKEND. DINITZ DESCRIBED THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES RABIN FACED BUT INDICATED THAT PERHAPS ISRAEL'S RESPONSE MIGHT COME IN TWO PARTS, A PRELIMINARY VIEW FROM RABIN TO BE FOLLOWED BY CONFIRMATION AFTER CABINET DISCUSSIONS.

4. I ALSO TOLD DINITZ THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO RECEIVE AN ISRAELI GROUP TO CONTINUE THE TECHNICAL TALKS ON ISRAEL'S AID REQUESTS AS SOON AS THAT CAN BE CONVENIENTLY ARRANGED (STATE 184174).

5. THE MAIN ELEMENTS IN THE LATEST EGYPTIAN POSITION WHICH I DESCRIBED TO DINITZ ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. ISRAELI LINE

-- FORWARD LINE, NORTHERN SECTOR: SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT ON THE EGYPTIAN FORWARD LINE, SADAT ACCEPTS THE CONCEPT OF THE ISRAELI FORWARD LINE AS DESCRIBED IN THE ISRAELI FALL BACK. I AM ASSUMING YOU HAVE BEEN SHOWN THE ISRAELI MAP AS I REQUESTED. HE MAY HAVE SOME MINOR ADJUSTMENTS TO SUGGEST OF A FEW HUNDRED METERS HERE AND THERE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

-- MAIN LINE, NORTHERN SECTOR: SADAT WANTS TO LEAVE OPEN FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION SOME ADJUSTMENTS IN THE MAIN LINE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 186400

COMMENSURATE WITH CHANGES IN THE FORWARD LINE.

-- IN THE AREA OF THE PASSES:

-- SADAT ACCEPTS THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL ON THE LINE BETWEEN THE PASSES.

-- SADAT CONTINUES TO ASK THAT THE ISRAELI FORWARD LINE

BE OUT OF THE PASSES.

-- SINCE THE ISRAELIS SAY THEIR INTENTION IS THAT THEIR LINE SHOULD BE OUT OF THE PASSES, I TOLD DINITZ THERE ARE TWO POSSIBLE WAYS OF RESOLVING THIS: (1) ISRAEL PROVIDE A FURTHER ADJUSTMENT IN THE LINE SO THAT IT IS CLEARLY OUT OF THE PASSES; OR, AS SADAT SUGGESTS, (2) THE

US COULD SEND SOMEONE TO MAKE AN OBJECTIVE JUDGMENT AS TO WHAT IS "REASONABLY" OUT OF THE PASSES. FYI. DINITZ IS STILL TALKING, AS RABIN DID WITH YOU, ABOUT ISRAEL'S LINE BEING "OUT OF THE SUMMITS" OR ON THE EASTERN SLOPES. I HAVE SAID THEY MUST BE OUT OF THE PASSES. END FYI.

-- IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR BETWEEN THE PASSES AND THE ACCESS CORRIDOR, SADAT HAS NOT ACCEPTED THE ISRAELI FORWARD LINE AND INSISTS THAT IT BE MOVED FURTHER TOWARD THE SOUTH-EAST. THIS IS SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION.

B. EGYPTIAN LINE

-- SADAT CONTINUES TO INSIST THAT THE EGYPTIAN FORWARD LINE SHOULD ADVANCE A SYMBOLIC DISTANCE EAST OF THE PRESENT LINE B.

-- THE AREA BETWEEN THAT LINE AND THE SUEZ CANAL WOULD BE AN AREA OF LIMITED ARMAMENTS AND FORCES.

C. ACCESS CORRIDOR

-- LINE. EGYPT ACCEPTS THE DEFINITION OF THE LINE DEFINING THE CORRIDOR AS IT APPEARED ON THE LAST ISRAELI MAP.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 186400

-- ROADS.

-- SADAT AGREES TO HAVE US EXPERTS PARTICIPATE WITH THE ISRAELIS IN A TECHNICAL SURVEY TO FIND A PLACE FOR ANOTHER ROAD.

-- IN THE MEANTIME, THE ROAD COULD BE JOINTLY USED ON ALTERNATE DAYS. THIS WOULD BE A TEMPORARY MEASURE.

-- THERE COULD BE UN CHECKPOINTS BUT NO ISRAELI CHECKPOINTS ON THE ROADS.

-- HAMAM FARAUN. THE STATUS OF THIS AREA DEPENDS ON WHAT IS DECIDED ABOUT THE MONITORING STATION (SEE BELOW) BUT IN PRINCIPLE, SADAT AGREES THIS COULD BE UNDER THE UN

WITH ONLY NOMINAL EGYPTIAN CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATION. I TOLD DINITZ WE THOUGHT THE EASIEST SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM WOULD BE TO MOVE THIS STATION EAST OF THE ROAD SINCE IT APPARENTLY CONSISTS ONLY OF MOBILE EQUIPMENT.

D. STATIONS IN UN ZONE

-- UMM KUSHAIB MONITORING STATION. SADAT ACCEPTS THIS STATION BUT IT MUST BE US-MANNED AND ADMINISTERED BY US CIVILIAN PERSONNEL.

-- HAMAM FARAUN STATION, IF IT STAYS WHERE IT IS, MUST BE US-MANNED AND ADMINISTERED BY US CIVILIAN PERSONNEL.

-- SADAT INSISTS ON TWO EGYPTIAN STATIONS WITH RADAR, ONE EACH ON THE COASTAL AND ISMAILIA ROADS. HE IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT THESE INSTEAD OF A STATION AT JABAL HAITAN. HE CONTINUES TO WANT ONE EGYPTIAN COMPANY POST AT THE WESTERN ENTRANCE TO MITLA PASS.

-- US MILITARY POSTS. SADAT REMAINS OPPOSED IN PRINCIPLE TO THE PRESENCE OF US MILITARY POSTS. HOWEVER, HE MIGHT BE WILLING TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR PUTTING THESE UNDER SOME OTHER UMBRELLA. FOR INSTANCE:

-- TWO PROPOSED POSTS IN THE GIDI PASS AREA MIGHT BE REPRESENTED AS CHECKPOINTS IN AN EXTENSION OF THE US
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PAGE 05 STATE 186400

POSITION AT UMM KUSHAIB.

-- THE NUMBER MIGHT BE REDUCED. KISSINGER

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